

LITERARY NOTES.

Lord Lytton has just printed some correspondence between his father and Macready, which shows that in the play of "Richelieu," as originally written, the Cardinal was a very unimportant character. The playwright saw that while the part was especially suited to the great actor it would bring him but little upon the stage; and thus the play was changed.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney has written a serial story with the remarkable title of "Buttered Crusts," and it will soon be given in *Wide Awake*.

Mr. Oscar Wilde's lecture, "American Impressions," will shortly be published in London in pamphlet form.

Victor Hugo's "Cromwell," written and published nearly fifty-five years ago, will, it is reported, be brought out for the first time at a Paris theatre next winter. In this remarkable play M. Hugo represents Cromwell as having been an undergraduate of Oxford, ejected from that ancient institution, first on account of his "low extraction," and next for the offence of walking on the college grass plot.

The quick temper of Heine's wife was enough to have inspired in the poet much more melancholy and satirical poems than those he gave to the world. "She would not harm a cat," said Heine, deprecatingly, on one occasion, "but her nature is excessive." Dr. Wertheimer, the hydropathist, called to see Heine some time after he became bed-ridden; and after a short conversation with the invalid he came to the conclusion that he was not properly or sufficiently looked after, and he told him so. Mathilde, who overheard the remark, lay in wait for the unsuspecting hydropathist as he left the room, and planted her clenched fist with such force in his face that he had a black eye for several days. Had he ventured to retaliate, adds M. Weil, she would have strangled him. She possessed, in fact, remarkable strength for a woman; and she often boasted that in wrestling she was more than a match for any of the lads in her native village.

Twelve short poems—classics in their way—are to be exquisitely illustrated by distinguished artists and to be brought out as a holiday work by D. Lothrop & Co.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. intend to publish an edition *de luxe* in nineteen volumes of the works of Jonathan Swift. Only 250 sets will be printed.

Alphonse Daudet contributes to the sixth volume of his collected writings (about to be published in Paris) a preface composed in his happiest vein. It is designed to allay the indignant wrath of the Tarascons who took offence at many of the doings and sayings of Daudet's hero, Tartarin de Tarascon, when his history first appeared in 1869.

"At the close of it the author says: "Looking to-day, after so many years, at the book, and its mad, wild style, I seem to recognize in it youth, life and truth; yes, truth; truth of a southern warmth which exaggerates and enlarges, but never lies, and always talks in Tarasconnes. The fiction, true enough, is neither refined nor crisp; it resembles more the manner of my hero, his volatility and animated gesticulation. However much I admire a fine style, a harmonious and picturesque language, I must confess that these, according to my opinion, are not the main objects of a writer of fiction. His joy it is to create life-like beings, to invent types, characters which will move in the world with the name, the features and characteristics given to them by their author, and which whether inspiring love or hate, will be talked about by people without recalling to their minds the author or his name. For my part I always am deeply moved whenever I hear my neighbor in the life of politics, or the circles of society, or the assembly of artists, say: 'Tis a Tartarin... a Monparon... a Delobelle.' A tremor of joy overcomes me then and I feel like a father who, hid among the crowd, hears the plaudits greeting his son, and who feels like exclaiming above the heads of the multitude, 'Tis my child! Tis my child!"

James R. Osgood & Co. will bring out in the autumn a novel by Mr. H. C. Bunner, of this city—a gentleman who has been known heretofore as the author of dainty and ingenious verse and of many merry quips and sallies in *Fuck*.

Miss Blanche Howard, the author of "One Summer," is engaged upon a new novel, which will be published during the coming season by the same firm.

NEW BOOKS.

Miss Alexander's "Story of Ida" (Cupples, Upham & Co.) shows traces of careful editing at the hands of Mr. Ruskin, who has expressed a characteristic enthusiasm in regard to the little sketch. "It is a real passage of human life," he says, "seen in the light that Heaven sent for it,"—a light which he has possibly heightened a little here and there. Sentences which he particularly admires he has italicised and marked by foot-notes—in every case weakening the matter and irritating the reader. The story is pathetic, and is told with a refined simplicity which deepens its pathos. Ida was a young Italian girl whose short life was full of unselfishness and sadness, and whose purity and sweetness of nature are revealed in the touching portrait which Miss Alexander has prefixed to her book.

In a volume entitled "Twelve Americans" (Harrer & Brothers), Mr. Howard Carroll has reprinted in a revised and augmented form a series of sketches which first appeared in *The New-York Times*. His subjects are public men living or dead, of more or less renown—chiefly men who, born to poverty and struggle, made their own successes. The sketches are pleasantly and simply written.

Thomas Whitaker has brought out an edition of a life of Grace Darling, in which imagination blends with fact. It is exhaustsive, giving even the history of the heroine's birth-place.

There is something rather grotesque about the title "The Primer of Politeness," but the book itself, written by A. M. Gow, and published by Lippincott, is sensible and useful. It is intended for schools, and each injunction as to habit and feeling is illustrated by suggestive anecdotes, and is followed by questions to be put by the teacher.

Mr. C. Edwards Lester has published through J. B. Alden a friendly sketch of the late Peter Cooper.

"The New Guide of the Conversation in Portuguese and English," by Pedro Carolina, is unmissably funny. The blunders in English so gravely made are amusing enough—but it is a question whether the average reader can struggle through the book to the one hundred and eighty-second page without fatigue.

"Little Brown-Top" (D. Lothrop & Co.), by E. A. Rand, is an excellent little story for young people. It describes the many pleasant ways in which two clever and conscientious girls exerted a beneficial influence in a country school district.

"On a Mexican Mustang Through Texas" is the title of a bulky volume in which Mr. A. E. Sweet and Mr. J. A. Knox, Editors of *Texas Stories*, have given a half fanciful and half serious account of their State. The book is anecdotal and is arranged and illustrated after the manner of the volumes which Mark Twain has bestowed upon an anxious world. Some of the matter has appeared in the journal edited by the authors.

Three volumes of "Topics of the Time" have thus far been issued by G. P. Putnam's Sons. These are "Social Problems," "Studies in Biography" and "Studies in Literature." They contain the most attractive essays in these fields which have lately appeared in foreign periodicals. They are selected, arranged and printed with much taste, and are of the best of the cheap publications for summer reading on the train, the boat and the veranda.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

JARL'S DAUGHTERS. By Mrs. F. H. Burnett. Square 12mo, pp. 160, paper. (Philadelphia: T. H. Peterson & Brothers.)

THE BOOK OF LEONIDAS. By James M. Sherwood. 8vo, pp. 120, cloth. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.)

ROBERT BRUNSWICK. By A. P. Sinnett. 12mo, pp. 160. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

MOMOR BIJOU. A Romance. By the author of "Ma-

brook." 16mo, pp. 306. (Buffalo, N. Y.: Peter Paul & Brother.)

THE DEMON OF THE ORIENT. By Allen S. Williams. 12mo, pp. 140. (The Author.)

SEVEN DAYS IN A FULL-MAR. By Auburn Towner. 16mo, pp. 247, paper. (J. B. Ogle & Co.)

THE TARIFF LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES. By Charles W. Williams. 8vo, pp. 193. (Boston: Soule & Beddoe.)

THE HEIRESS AND THE RED SEA. By Alex. W. Thayer. 16mo, pp. 140. (Andover: Warren F. Draper.)

THE DOWNWARD PATH. By Emily Gaborian. 8vo, pp. 236, paper. (Boston: Estes & Lauriat.)

UP FROM THE CAPE. A Plan for Republican Simplicity. 16mo, pp. 252. (Boston: Estes & Lauriat.)

WATER SUPPLY. By William Ripley Nichols. 8vo, pp. 232. (John Wiley & Sons.)

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PART III. STUDIES IN LITERATURE, is now ready, and comprises "American Literature in England," from "Blackwood's"; "Isaiah of Jerusalem," by Matthew Arnold; "The Unknown" by C. M. Yonge; "The Journeyman Carpenter" by George Eliot; "The Red Barn" by the Rev. Dr. Stoebe, and other essays by distinguished writers.

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